



MBA JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING
South Side Christian Church
2600 South MacArthur Boulevard
January 10, 2019

MINUTES

The meeting was convened at 7:43 a.m.

Welcome: President Michael Higgins

Secretary's Report:

- Thank you to Loretta Durbin for the December minutes;
- No changes suggested to the minutes;
- December Annual Meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report:

- December/End-of-year:
 - Expenses: \$763.79;
 - Income: \$680.00;
 - Balance: \$17,337.05;
 - Approved as presented.

Program: Lisa Stott, DSI – Levitt AMP Your City Grant award

- The Levitt grant (through the Levitt Family Foundation) has been discussed for several years:
 - Jacksonville, IL was awarded the same grant in 2016.
- Mutual effort from DSI, Mayor's Office, OPED, SCVB.
- Springfield chosen as one of 40+ finalists from across the country.
- The applications chosen were based on the strength of the application plus the nationwide voting that occurred in late 2018.
- Several components to the grant: 1) underutilized space (preferably grassy); 2) events must be free to the public; 3) matching grant of 50% of grant award needed.
- It's a \$25,000 matching grant:
 - A match of \$12,500 must be found;
 - DSI is meeting with SPD, Public Works for safety, grass-seeding needs.
 - Sponsorships are available to help create the match as well:
 - Distributors/alcohol vendors cannot be the main or primary sponsors of the event.
- May 30 – Aug 1, Thursday nights (will include the Fourth of July).
- Great opportunity for collaboration.
- Looking to figure out how to incorporate food trucks/food vendors, possibly alcohol vendors:
 - MBA happy to assist with coordinating food trucks if needed;
 - Suggestion made to allow coolers, "BYOB" individuals with age checks at entrance points.

Local Government Update:

- a. **Alderwoman, Ward 6: Kristin DiCenso:**
 - i. Budget hearings start tonight (1/10/19), the next is Tuesday (1/15/19) after regular City Council, then the final is next Thursday (1/17/19);
 - ii. "Supplemental appropriation" for fire trucks recently presented to City Council;
 - iii. All aldermen met with Public Works for 2019 plans:
 1. Portion of south MacArthur will receive an overlay;
 2. Additional alley work coming;

3. Additional segments of brick roads will be replaced.
- b. **Alderman, Ward 7: Joe McMenamin:**
 - i. Supreme Buffet has had a change of ownership last week;
 - ii. Infrastructure
 1. Cherry Road drainage issues, sidewalk issues
 2. Most sidewalks have been improved west of MacArthur Boulevard
 - iii. Boulevard Townhomes nearly at full occupancy, very minor crimes/calls for service reported
- c. **Sangamon County, County Board Member: Lisa Hills**
 - i. No major updates to provide; all is going well in the area
- d. **Springfield Neighborhood Police Officer: Mike Badger**
 - i. Update on focused deterrence update coming from the Police Chief
 1. Approximately six months ago the Police Department had a meeting with the biggest/most regular offenders (total of 21 individuals) and let them know that they are being monitored closely, but also provided information and access to social services to change their habits
 - a. 10 individuals have reoffended
 - b. 5 have left the city/disappeared from the public eye
 - c. 5 have actively worked to turn their lives around
 - ii. 80% of property theft is unlocked vehicles
 1. Officer Badger requested that everyone try to talk to at least 5 individuals to remind them to lock their cars; the PD believes we can drop these types of crimes by at least 30%.

Announcements:

- o Welcome to new faces, opportunity to introduce themselves: Rianne Hawkins (City Clerk), Elizabeth Jones (Ward 6), Brad Carlson (Ward 7), Jennifer Notriano (City Treasurer).
- o DSI Annual Dinner is Thursday, January 24th.
- o The Heritage Foundation received 312 E. Adams St. building foundation; the goal of the Foundation is looking to sell the building very affordably (less than \$50,000) to an owner looking to renovate and move in.
- o 2019 Aldermanic Candidate Forums: Wards 1-5 on Wednesday, February 6 and Wards 6-10 on Thursday, February 7 here in the Community Room of South Side Christian Church. Each night the event will be held from 6:30-9:00 p.m.
- o Thank you to Nicki Stratton, MBA Member, for
- o March 21st workshop to engage additional interest and excitement about our city, provide information to potential investors, developers, and entrepreneurs. Called "Momentum on Main Street."

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jess Weitzel, Secretary